

State, War and Navy Building
(Old Executive Office Building)
Southeast corner of Pennsylvania
Avenue and 17th Street, NW
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS
DC,
WASH.
521-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE District of Columbia		COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Washington
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) State, War and Navy Building			HABS NO. DC-290
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Old Executive Office Building			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Southeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street, NW			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1871-1888		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Exterior: Alfred B. Mullett, Interior deco- ration & exterior sculpture: Richard von Ezzdorf	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) A premier example of the French Second Empire style.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) French Second Empire			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Granite			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangular with 2 inner courtyards; approx. 285' (25-bays) x 520' (45-bays); mansard roof; each facade has projecting central pavilion of 7 stories, remainder of building 6 stories			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Complex slate roof with decorative chimneys and dormers; central pavilions and slightly projecting corner pavilions ornamented with grouped columns and pilasters; pedimented win- dows			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Interior originally divided between State, War, and Navy Departments with distinctive hard- ware for each; 6 spiral stairways (2 of them double) with domed skylights; 3 highly orna- mented departmental libraries; over 10 acres of floor space			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Serves as executive branch offices.			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Schwartz, Nancy B. Historic American Buildings Survey District of Columbia Catalog, 1974, A National Historic Landmark Category I District of Columbia Landmark			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS			DATE 8/4/83